

CONVEYING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE STATE OF MARYLAND

JULY 19, 1965.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. CHURCH, from the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 1988]

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1988) to provide for the conveyance of certain real property of the United States to the State of Maryland, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with an amendment and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

AMENDMENT

On page 2, line 3, delete the words "university land" and insert in lieu thereof the words "University Lane".

PURPOSE

The bill would authorize the Secretary of Interior to convey to the State of Maryland approximately 14 acres of land on the University of Maryland campus at College Park, Md., which was donated by the State of Maryland to the United States in 1935, and now occupied by the Bureau of Mines and the Fish and Wildlife Service. The State would pay the United States the fair market value of the fixed improvements, but there would be no payment for the land.

Because of its unusual growth, the University of Maryland for several years has desired to occupy these lands and buildings. Only a few hundred students attended the university when the land was originally deeded, but enrollment today is in excess of 25,000.

Similar legislation was passed by the House in 1958 and by the Senate in 1962.

CONCLUSION

The committee unanimously recommends enactment of S. 1988.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The favorable reports of the executive agencies follow:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., July 8, 1965.

Hon. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: Your committee has requested the views of the Department of the Interior on S. 1988, a bill to provide for the conveyance of certain real property of the United States to the State of Maryland.

We recommend enactment of the bill and suggest an amendment as set forth below.

The bill would:

(1) Authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the State of Maryland certain described lands and improvements thereon, comprising 14.2452 acres, more or less, situated on the campus of the University of Maryland at College Park, Md., and which remains of a 20.56-acre plot heretofore donated to the United States by the State of Maryland;

(2) Provide that the conveyance authorized by the act shall be subject to the condition that the State of Maryland pay to the United States an amount equal to the fair market value, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, of the fixed improvements on the tract of land to be conveyed.

The described lands and facilities thereon at College Park are currently occupied and used by the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Mines and Bureau of Commercial Fisheries.

For several years the University of Maryland has desired to occupy these Federal lands and buildings. The reasons are well known, arising largely from the unusual growth of the university in recent years, and the position of the university is well appreciated. Our favoring enactment of the bill is in accord with recommendations made by this Department since similar legislation was first introduced in the 85th Congress.

Enactment of the bill would raise two problems: (1) The need for separate legislation authorizing replacement facilities, and (2) the need for continued occupancy of the facilities until the matter of replacement facilities has been resolved.

Immediate termination of the Department of the Interior's activities at this location would have serious adverse effect upon several programs but a phased termination under interim use agreement would be beneficial to the long-range programs of the Department in both the minerals and fisheries areas.

The University of Maryland officials understand the serious adverse effect that immediate termination would have on several programs at the university location. We have an understanding with them that

will permit the Department of the Interior to continue occupancy of the facilities until the Congress has authorized the necessary replacement facilities, even if this occupancy extended over 3 or more years.

The current and longer range plans of the Bureau of Mines and the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries anticipate space and facility requirements in excess of those presently available on the university campus at College Park, Md. These longer range requirements have been identified and alternative site locations are now being explored. Consideration is also being given to relating these requirements to other potential departmental need for research, technology, and related facilities. Full advantage will be taken of economies or efficiencies that can be gained through departmentwide management and servicing of these scientific and research programs. It is anticipated that these studies will be completed this summer and will be reflected in a legislative proposal before the next session of the Congress.

We suggest the following amendment: On page 2, line 3, delete the words "university land" and insert in lieu thereof the words "University Lane".

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the administration's program.

Sincerely yours,

D. OTIS BEASLEY,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington, D.C., July 8, 1965.

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, U.S. Senate, 3106
New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request for the views of the Bureau of the Budget on S. 1988, a bill to provide for the conveyance of certain real property of the United States to the State of Maryland.

The Bureau of the Budget agrees with the Department of the Interior that relocation necessarily involves a reevaluation of departmental needs and the selection of a site for the displaced facilities. The proper location of such facilities is essential to the effective implementation of the programs of the Bureaus of Mines and Commercial Fisheries. For this reason the Department of the Interior is undertaking a study of relocation sites which will be completed before the next session of Congress. The Bureau of the Budget and the Office of Science and Technology will be working with Interior on this matter.

The Bureau of the Budget would have no objection to enactment of S. 1988.

Sincerely yours,

PHILLIP S. HUGHES,
Assistant Director for Legislative Reference.

COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, D.C., July 2, 1965.

B-157000.

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
U.S. Senate.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: By letter dated June 10, 1965, you requested our report on S. 1988. The stated purpose of this measure is to provide for the conveyance of certain real property of the United States to the State of Maryland.

While the purpose sought by S. 1988 is viewed as a matter solely for the determination of the Congress, we would like to offer one comment concerning the measure for the consideration of the committee. Section 2 of S. 1988 provides that the State of Maryland shall pay to the United States an amount equal to the fair market value, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, of the fixed improvements on the tract of land to be conveyed. This section contains no provision as to the disposition of the funds that will be received by the United States. In the absence of language specifying the disposition of such funds when received, they will be deposited into the general fund of the Treasury pursuant to the provisions of section 3617, Revised Statutes, 31 U.S.C. 484. We believe that such disposition is proper and apparently was intended by the sponsors of the bill.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK H. WEITZEL,
Acting Comptroller General of the United States.

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